

March 13, 2000

U.S. Federal Election Commission  
Office of General Counsel  
999 E. Street NW  
Washington, DC 20463

MUR 4986

Mar 20 3 13 PM '00

RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF GENERAL  
COUNSEL

Dear Office of General Counsel,

An event took place in the Denver, Colorado area which might be in violation of regulations established by the U.S. Federal Election Commission. I am submitting this complaint to the Office of General Counsel requesting an investigation.

On March 9, 2000, *the day before the Colorado Presidential Primary*, the Denver Broncos Football Team hosted a rally at their training facility for George W. Bush, Republican candidate for President. The rally was well planned with five hundred people in attendance, including, Governor Bill Owens, Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, and even the Bronco cheerleaders. Denver Bronco Coach, Mike Shanahan, presented George W. Bush with a specially made Bronco jersey emblazoned with "BUSH" and "1" on the front. To me, this is a blatant endorsement by the Denver Broncos Football Team of George W. Bush in his bid for the Presidency.

I have several questions:

- Can an organization make an endorsement of a political candidate without being registered as a Political Action Committee (PAC)?
- Is the Denver Broncos Football Team registered as a PAC?
- Can a corporation make an endorsement and spend money on a political candidate? How was this event paid for?
- Basically, has the Denver Broncos Football Team done anything which the U.S. Federal Election Commission would consider a violation? (I have enclosed a copy of pictures and the story from the Denver Rocky Mountain News.)

Would you please inform me of your findings? Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Marion Zietz

Mrs. Marion Zietz  
10435 W. Warren Ave.  
Lakewood, CO 80227  
303-989-5178

SUBSCRIBED AND AFFIRMED, OR SWORN TO  
BEFORE ME IN THE COUNTY OF Jefferson,  
STATE OF COLORADO, THIS 13th DAY  
OF March, 2000.

Kevin 3/16/00

My Commission Expires 12-10-2001



# Denver Rocky Mountain News

Denver and Colorado's largest and best daily newspaper

March 10, 2000 • RockyMountainNews.com

**FRIDAY**

25¢ (May vary outside metro Denver)

## Merger meltdown

German telecom giant terminates negotiations with Qwest, U S West. 1B

### Broncos rally for GOP's QB



Glenn Asakawa/News Staff Photographer

Broncos coach Mike Shanahan, right, presents a Broncos jersey to Republican presidential candidate George W. Bush at the team's Dove Valley headquarters Thursday. Bush was named an "honorary Bronco" during the football-themed rally, which began moments after rival John McCain abandoned the race. 4A

## CAMPAIGN 2000

► Departure day: Bradley, McCain officially bow out. 2A

► Meaningless or not, it's Colorado's turn to vote. 16A, 28A

## Green light for school reform

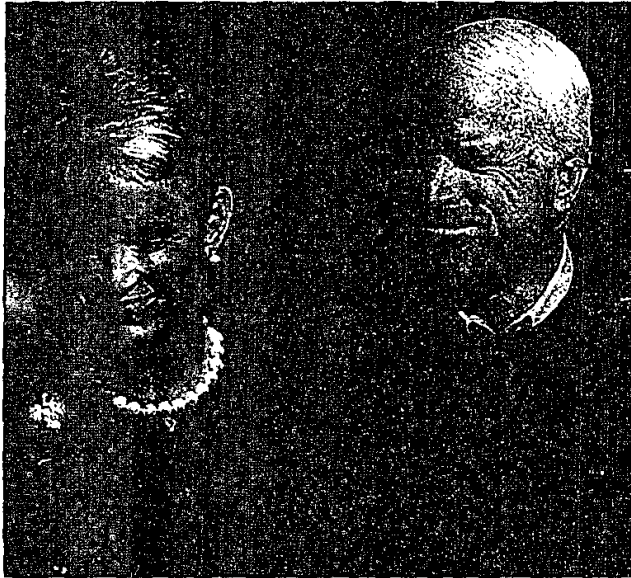
Governor's plan survives Senate virtually intact. 5A

Tax surplus keeps on climbing; refunds could top \$833 million. 7A

RockyPreps.com

Boulder DA Hunter won't seek 8th term. 40A

STATE BASKETBALL COVERAGE. 8-PAGE SECTION / 1P



Left: Cindy McCain joins her husband, Sen. John McCain, as he announces in Sedona, Ariz., that he is suspending his presidential campaign. Right: Bill Bradley, with his wife, Ernestine, ends his bid for the Democratic nomination in West Orange, N.J., Thursday.



Associated Press

## INSIDE STORY

# Losing steam Straight Talk Express slams on the brakes

By Yvonne Abraham  
The Boston Globe

**SEDONA, Arizona** — The Straight Talk Express fell silent Thursday.

John McCain, the combative Arizona senator who gave Te Gov. George W. Bush a serious run for his ample money — a who at times looked set to challenge the way political campaigns are run in this country — gave up bid for the Republican presidential nomination.

McCain, who stood atop a against a spectacular backdrop of red rocks, snow-covered ridges and white clouds stretched against a huge blue sky, was the beaming, wise-cracking candidate of yore — the man who roared past Bush in New Hampshire and then ran headlong in Republican reality.

He and his always-garrulous aides were somber Thursday the senator delivered a speech that held no more of his usual humor and energy but which echoed feistiness that endeared him to millions of voters — particularly voters outside his own party.

"I hoped our campaign would be a force for change in the Republican Party," McCain said. "And I believe we have chosen a course that will ultimately prevail in making our party the country we serve."

He said the support he had received from voters was "bigger the cause of our country — a greater and more important than the ambitions of any single candidate."

# Underdogs bow out

McCain suspends campaign; Bradley withdraws from race; both chide triumphant rivals

By Ron Fournier

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — Falling as swiftly as they soared, John McCain and Bill Bradley abandoned their presidential races Thursday and chided their triumphant rivals on the way out.

"Millions of Americans have rallied to our banner," McCain said as both candidates sought to leverage the support they had earned.

The Arizona senator pledged to press his case for political reform and warned that Republicans will "slip into the mists of history" without it. McCain, who pulled swarms of Democrats and independents into GOP contests, offered nominee-in-waiting George W. Bush his "best wishes" — but not his

## CAMPAIGN 2000

### INSIDE

■ Bush campaigns in Dove Valley/4A

■ Bradley offers tepid support to Gore/50A

endorsement.

An hour before McCain bowed out, Bradley told reporters he would support Vice President Al Gore, but he also accused his fellow Democrat of "distortions" in their primary fight.

"I hope that he will run a better campaign in the general election," said the former New Jersey senator, who was unable to win any primary or caucus.

It was a victorious day for the political establishments that backed Bush and Gore, both of whom vanquished their rivals after stiff challenges. "When you do battle with entrenched power ... it's very difficult," Bradley said.

Within minutes of McCain's announcement, Bush's team was reaching out to McCain

intermediaries in an effort to mend fences. The rivals themselves spoke briefly by telephone, but settled nothing.

"John needs some time to think, and I need some time," Bush said.

Said to still be seething at the Texas governor, McCain is in no hurry to make peace. He planned to take a week's vacation before determining what leverage he has with Bush and what he might want to achieve with it, said a McCain adviser.

McCain knows he is not bargaining from a strong position, but the adviser said his boss wants to somehow keep his signature issue — campaign finance reform — on the political agenda.

With that goal in mind, McCain quit the race but didn't shut down his campaign — a technicality that keeps his options open to make things uncomfortable for Bush, who needs McCain's endorsement to unify the party.

See CAMPAIGN on 65A

## NEWS DIGEST



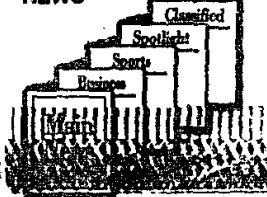
**Morning snow**  
high 38, low 24

Complete weather 67A  
24-hour line: (303) 494-4221

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### FRIDAY'S NEWS



### IN BRIEF

Texas Gov. George Bush's campaign stop in Colorado transforms into a victory celebration. **LOCAL 4A**

Gov. Bill Owens' education reform plan wins a preliminary OK in the Senate. **LOCAL 5A**

After a vehicle chase captured live on TV, police arrest a man suspected in a drug case. **LOCAL 5A**

Colorado's budget surplus grows by \$100 million in the latest projection to more than \$800 million. **STATE 7A**

Boulder District Attorney Alex Hunter, 63, announces he won't seek an eighth term in office. **SUBURBS 40A**

Deutsche Telekom walks away from merger talks with Qwest Communications and U S West. **BUSINESS 1B**

The Nasdaq index closes above 5,000 for the first time, and is now up 24 percent for the year. **BUSINESS 1B**

A 10-year-old, girl kidnapped a three-year-old boy in a Florida state park. **ASKS for help: NATION 4A**

More than a third of the criminal aliens freed in the U.S. have committed new crimes. **WORLD 48A**

New Avalanche defenseman Ray Bourque expects to play tonight against Edmonton. **SPORTS 1C**

No. 1 University of Cincinnati's top basketball player, Kenyon Martin, breaks his leg in a game. **SPORTS 1C**

With primaries in Colorado and 29 other states rendered irrelevant, it's clear reform is needed in the choosing of candidates. **EDITORIAL 61A**

IMAX cameras focus on the sea mammals that seem so like humans for the film, *Dolphins*. **SPOTLIGHT 4D**

Brian DePalma has built a space voyage out of state ideas and sci-fi bric-a-brac in *Mission to Mars*. Robert Dennerstein gives it a C+. **SPOTLIGHT 6D**

### HOW TO CALL US

Main number: (303) 494-4221  
Delivery: (303) 494-4221  
Newsroom: (303) 892-5201

### CORRECTIONS

■ A column on Page 14D of Tuesday's Spotlight should have said that Arlene Hirschfeld is chairwoman of the board of the Allied Jewish Federation and Sol Lefstin is president of the American Jewish Committee in Colorado.

■ *Because You Asked It* on Page 31A Jan. 26 should have said that while most of the Cathedral Spires rock formation is part of Jefferson County's open space holdings, the east face of the rock formation is privately owned.

To notify the Denver Rocky Mountain News of any inaccuracies, please call (303) 892-5381.

### COLORADO LOTTERY

Cash E: March 9  
7-13-14-17-28

Local Pool: 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-00-01-02-03-04-05-06-07-08-09-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70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## Bank quits rejecting gun firms' business

It follows backlash  
firearms industry

Crowder

Bank has reversed its poli-  
rejecting business from  
makers and sellers after  
sh from the gun industry.  
Banking giant will no  
refuse to do business with  
companies, a spokesman  
Thursday.

Decision marks a radical  
from statements Citibank  
last month, when it  
long-standing policy of  
ing in financial relation-  
ship businesses that manu-  
or sell military weapons,  
munitions or firearms."  
Rights advocates began  
g accounts and mailing in  
redit cards after news re-  
the policy, which sur-  
ter Citibank canceled a  
adunt opened by a Neva-  
range.

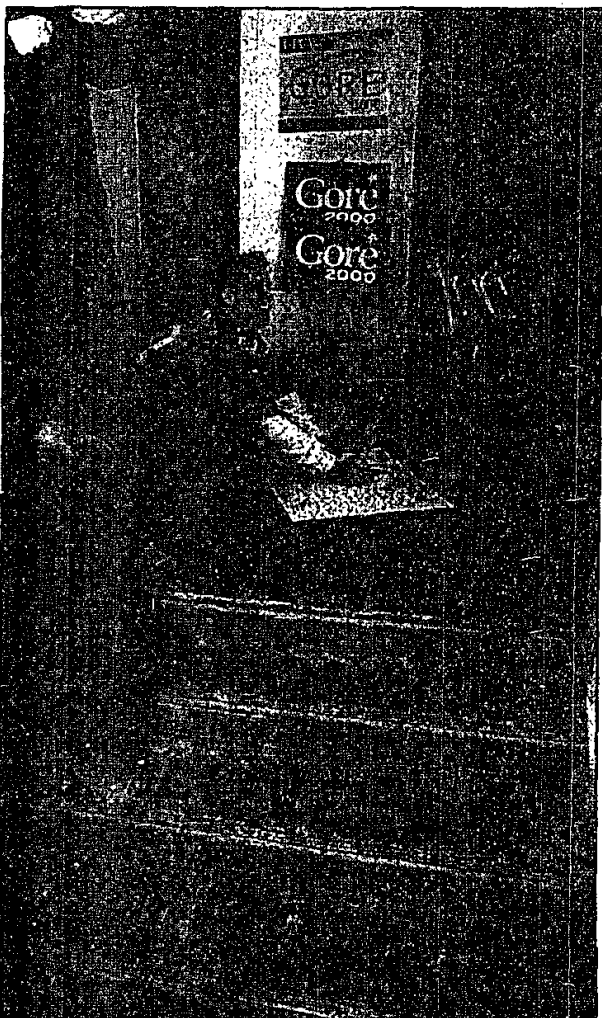
gun-industry grapevine  
ed into action with faxes  
ernet alerts circulating  
all dealers all the way up  
RA.

salespeople had to be  
ng. "We're losing millions  
s a day," said Tom Gre-  
Louisiana radio talk-  
st, whose *Gun Talk* pro-  
s over 100 stations. The  
rule had been a hot  
three weeks.

Bank was saying that

See BANK on 31A

# Broncos welcome Bush



Enoch M. Suarez/News Staff Photographer

Shanahan makes Texas  
governor an 'honorary'  
player as hundreds  
cheer at Dove Valley

By John C. Enoslin  
News Staff Writer

**ARAPAHOE COUNTY** — The  
Broncos rolled out a predomi-  
nantly blue and orange wel-  
come Thursday for presidential  
hopeful George W. Bush.

The Texas governor's  
Colorado campaign stop turned  
into a football-style victory rally  
Thursday as Bush took the  
stage moments after John  
McCain, his chief Republican  
rival, bowed out.

Bush delayed his appearance  
at the Broncos' Dove Valley  
headquarters by about 20 min-  
utes so he could watch the  
Arizona senator announce he  
was suspending his campaign  
for the GOP nomination.

"I want to congratulate John  
for fighting a good fight," Bush  
told a crowd of several hundred  
supporters on the eve of  
Colorado's primary election.

"He campaigned hard for  
what he believes in. I know the  
competition has made me a bet-  
ter candidate.

"I know the competition is  
going to help us win the White  
House in November."

The event capitalized on the  
Broncos' drawing power.

Volunteer John Marble writes  
more signs backing Vice  
President Al Gore at the Col-  
orado Gore campaign head-  
quarters on at 2909 E. Colfax  
Ave. Mayor Wellington Webb  
stopped by the office Thurs-  
day to show his support.

**CAMPAIGN** **INSIDE**

No plans to  
change state  
primary  
date/16A

**2000**

■ McCain supporters hope he  
will restart campaign/28A

Webb urges Coloradans to go  
to polls for 'good practice'/28A

Sportscaster Dave Logan  
served as the master of  
ceremonies. The Bronco cheer-  
leaders tossed miniature foot-  
balls into the crowd. And Bron-  
co coach Mike Shanahan gave  
Bush a team jersey and made  
him an "honorary Bronco" as  
fireworks sparked behind them.

Former Broncos Steve  
Sewell, Randy Gradishar, Rich  
Karlis and Billy Thompson also  
shared the stage with Bush.

Bush praised Shanahan and  
said, "Mike Shanahan shares  
the same values that we share:  
family, faith and integrity."

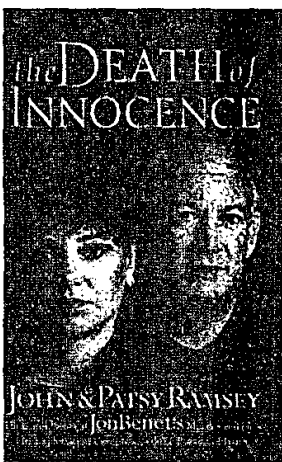
As the crowd broke into a  
chant of "No More Gore," Bush  
wasted no time in turning his  
attention to his Democratic  
opponent, Vice President Al  
Gore.

He attacked Gore for suggest-  
ing that both campaigns forgo  
raising "soft money" while con-  
tinuing to raise those funds.

"America is not going to be  
fooled by this difference  
between rhetoric and reality,"  
Bush said. "He must think we  
have amnesia. He must think  
we've forgotten Buddhist tem-  
ples and fund-raising affairs."

Soft money is a term for  
political contributions that are  
earmarked for issue ads instead

See PRIMARY on 31A



## Ramseys' books put under armed guard

Publisher says people tried  
various tricks to get a copy  
of 'The Death of Innocence'

By Lisa Levitt Ryckman  
News Staff Writer

The first copies of John and Patsy Ram-  
sey's book were placed under armed guard  
behind a barbed-wire fence because of  
concerns its contents would be leaked  
before sales begin March 17.

"There were people calling posing as  
our employees, saying they had to have a  
copy shipped to them right away," said  
Rolf Zettersten of Thomas Nelson, a pub-  
lisher of Christian books based in  
Nashville, Tenn. "The printer wanted to  
get rid of it. They said they couldn't guar-

**INSIDE**

■ News to get  
rare interview  
with the Ram-  
seys/36A

■ District at-  
torney in case  
won't seek an-  
other teen/40A

antee its security."

Copies of *The Death of  
Innocence*, the Ramseys'  
account of events sur-  
rounding the December  
1996 murder of their 6-  
year-old daughter, Jon-  
Benet, were shipped to  
Nashville, where they  
were stored in trailers  
under guard. Distribu-

tion to retailers began this week.  
Every major U.S. bookseller has  
ordered the book, which has a first printing  
of 300,000.

Access to the manuscript was severely  
limited, even to Thomas Nelson employ-  
ees, and people given advance copies were  
asked to sign contracts agreeing not to dis-  
close its contents, Zettersten said.

The book's publisher had a scare when  
it received an empty envelope that was  
supposed to contain a Boulder fact-check-  
er's copy of *The Death of Innocence*.

Ramsey attorney Bryan Morgan was  
convinced that the supermarket weeklies  
had intercepted it. "You don't know these  
people," he told Zettersten. "They'll stop  
at nothing."

The manuscript was missing for 24  
hours, Zettersten said. "Federal Express  
finally found it laying on the floor at their  
processing center in Denver."

One supermarket weekly apparently did  
talk to someone who had read parts of the  
book and printed details in its March 14  
issue.

Contact Lisa Levitt Ryckman at (303) 892-4048 or  
ryckman@rockymountainnews.com.